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
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ILLUSTRATION ANDRES PLANA

**Rabbits abound at a north-side car dealership —
and one group wants to adopt them** **metroNEWS**

Jail time for Suter

COURT OF APPEAL

Sentence hiked for driver who hit and killed boy on patio

Alberta's top court has increased the sentence of a man who crashed his SUV onto an Edmonton restaurant patio, killing a young boy.

The Alberta Court of Appeal has ruled that Richard Suter must turn himself into police this week to serve a 26-month sentence in prison.

Suter was originally sentenced late last year to four months jail, after pleading guilty to failing to provide a breath sample when there is a death.

Court heard the 62-year-old retired businessman had been arguing with his wife while parking his SUV in May 2013,

and mistakenly hit the gas instead of the brake.

Two-year-old Geo Mounsef, who was having dinner with his parents and baby brother, was pinned against a wall and died.

Following the crash, Suter was beaten up by a mob and was later abducted from his home by three masked men and had a thumb cut off.

The Appeal Court says it took the vigilante violence into consideration but that Suter was a mature man with life experience who made a choice not to provide a breath sample to officers after the accident.

Suter testified at his sentencing hearing that he had three drinks over four hours before the crash but wasn't drunk. The sentencing judge agreed that Suter wasn't impaired at the time and was given bad legal advice to refuse a breathalyzer test.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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A photograph of four children in H&M clothing. On the left, a boy wears a white t-shirt with a tiger face and patterned pants. Next to him, a girl sits on a ledge in a dark long-sleeved shirt. Behind her, a boy sits on the same ledge in a pink long-sleeved shirt with the text 'YEAH RIGHT'. On the right, a girl stands wearing a white t-shirt with a cartoon graphic and a dark skirt. She has cat-ear headbands and headphones. In the foreground, a girl lies on her back on the ground, wearing a dark beanie and a dark long-sleeved shirt. The background features a large screen showing a blue sky and a metal mesh wall.

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Female athletes 'don't owe anyone pretty'

WEIGHTLIFTING

Group wants people to focus on their ability, not their looks



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

"This is the unsexiest sport." As sports go, power lifting isn't the most attractive, said competitive lifter Beans Ludlow.

"We literally dress in a potato sack and, like, have our gut pressed against our belt with a tomato puffer fish face," she said.

Which is why Ludlow and group of female lifters in Edmonton are increasingly bewildered—not to mention frustrated—by what they say is social media's growing fixation with the looks of women who lift big weight.

So Ludlow, along with her training partners Angelina Van Ryswyk, Gaia Willis and Darron Bunt, have created an online community that celebrates the sport they love, the way they see it.

Since launching in May, this is Female Powerlifting has gained almost 3,000 followers on Instagram, and their new website launches soon.

Powerlifting clearly isn't for the faint of heart—or back, arms, or anything really. It's a strength sport where competitors



Gaia Willis, Darron Bunt, Angelina Van Ryswyk and Beans Ludlow are all competitive powerlifters who are fed up with those who focus on the appearance of female athletes. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

do three lifts: squats, bench press and deadlifts. Collectively, the group has competed provincially, nationally and internationally, and all say they fell in love with the sport because it celebrates strength, something they've tried to reflect in the new project.

"It's the successes, it's the failures, it's celebrating everything about the sport and things women are doing," Bunt said.

Noticeably absent are hashtags

like #bootygains and #peachgang that have become popular among some in the lifting community.

Instead, they've swapped in a few invented hashtags of their own, like #liftugly and #wedon-toweanyonepretty.

This isn't a quibble about whether or not lifters are attractive though—it's that attractiveness is beside the point.

Bunt points out that the Olympics have made it clear that fe-

male athletes are still judged differently than their male peers—with recent stories highlighting female Olympians looks, husbands or clothing.

"I think we're getting better at having it be acceptable for women to be strong, but where we're still tripping is on the physical aesthetic," Van Ryswyk added. "Not only do you have to be strong and fit, but you need abs, shoulder caps and to look

nice in a bikini."

All are quick to point out that they're proud of the bodies they've built, and they celebrate any athlete who wants to show off, with booty shots or otherwise.

They just don't want looks to be the main attraction, or newcomers to the sport to feel like they've got to glam up to fit in.

"I don't care what you look like," Bunt said. "I just want to see you lift."

POLITICS

NDP eyes rebate



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

The Alberta NDP is proposing taxpayers foot half the bill for parties and individual campaigns that receive at least 10 per cent of the vote, a move that opposition party members say Albertans don't want, given the poor economic climate.

At a meeting of the legislature's special ethics and accountability committee on Wednesday, Edmonton-Ellerslie MLA Rod Loyola introduced a recommendation that would rebate political parties and candidates, who receive 10 per cent of votes, 50 per cent of their campaign expenses.

The proposal will result in millions of public money paying for the campaign expenses of political parties.

During the committee meeting, Richard Starke, PC MLA for Vermilion-Lloydminster, said the NDP's move is unnecessary given the province's poor financial situation.

"Albertans have zero appetite to subsidize parties," Starke said.

"They (the NDP government) will see a firestorm across this province like they've never seen before."

The proposal is part of the committee's examination of potential changes to elections laws, conflict of interest legislation and whistle blower legislation. It's to submit a report by October, when the house resumes.



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RELATIONSHIPS

Humility the secret to a happy marriage: Study



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

A new study from the University of Alberta suggests that if you have a really great marriage, you may not be inclined to brag about it.

"People that are humble tend to have better relationships, or at least those who perceive their spouses as more humble" said Adam Galovan, an assistant

professor in the Department of Human Ecology.

"People need to be open and willing to focus less on themselves, to get out of themselves and say, a relationship isn't just about me, it's about us."

Seeking information on healthy communication, Galovan partnered with a handful of American researchers to complete random phone surveys with about 1,500 married people in three states across the U.S.

He points out that it's tricky

to measure people's humility simply by asking — by definition the truly humble aren't to rank themselves highly — which is why they asked people to rank their partners.

He was surprised by the relationship between humility and a good relationship. It outranked the impact of both compassion and positivity.

Though humility is a trait that impacts how you see others more than most, he said.

"As I heard someone say it

once, 'Humility isn't thinking less of yourself, it's thinking more of everyone else,'" he said.

People who are humble are therefore more able to see people more holistically.

He points to past research into classes that taught couples how to communicate better found they weren't as effective as researchers had thought.

The research into humility on the other hand, goes a little deeper: "It's more than the words it's what you are," Galovan said.



The Edmonton Oilers have discontinued the Octane cheer team. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oilers put an end to cheer team

NHL

Woman who called for end of squad in 2010 applauds move



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Some season ticket holders are applauding the Edmonton Oilers' decision to leave its cheerleading squad behind when the team moves to Rogers Place this fall.

The Oilers Entertainment Group announced Tuesday night it is discontinuing the Octane cheer team, hours after it announced a new "Orange and Blue Ice Crew" that will act as community ambassadors.

"The organization is looking for a new direction related to the fan experience, both in-game and in the community," read a statement posted to the Oilers website.

An Oilers representative declined further comment Wednesday.

Lisi Monroe, who launched a petition in 2010 to halt the cheer team at the planning stage, said Tuesday's announcement was a long time coming.

"I think that as more young women and women in general

participate in hockey and are fans of hockey, the cheerleaders weren't reflective of the female fan base of the Edmonton Oilers," she said.

Monro is a longtime season ticket holder and she credits the team's new leadership for listening to fan feedback.

Octane was the first cheer team in a Canadian NHL city when it made its debut in December 2010 — to mixed reaction from fans. Monro gathered thousands of signatures on her petition, but also faced harsh criticism.

"I don't believe that the pro sports arena was ready to really hear that type of backlash against a cheer team at the time. The topic of females and their representation in professional sports wasn't as upfront as it is now," she said.

"I think with the new leadership in and the progress that we've made over the last six years is really reflective of this decision."



The cheerleaders weren't reflective of the female fan base of the Edmonton Oilers.

Lisi Monro

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Top office leaked info: Privacy head

CELLPHONE BILL SCANDAL

Redford staff may have betrayed one of their own



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

The leak of former deputy premier Thomas Lukaszk's cellphone bill likely came from then premier Alison Redford's office, according to a new report from the information and privacy commissioner.

Commissioner Jill Clayton launched an investigation into the leak in December 2014, concerned over the breach of privacy when records were disclosed showing a more than \$20,000 bill that Lukaszk racked up in roaming charges.

Lukaszk was running for the Progressive Conservative leadership at the time his bills were leaked to the media.

In the report released Wednesday, investigator Brian Hamilton found that the bills were sought out by the premier's office in March 2014, when there was no reasonable reason they would need it.

"The information was requested by the former Premier's Chief of Staff's Office a year after the bill had been paid," wrote Hamilton.

Hamilton was not able to determine specifically who leaked the documents, because that was outside the office's mandate.

"It is arguable that the release of information about cellphone charges may have been in the public interest, it was leaked in an uncontrolled manner — nobody's privacy interests were considered," she said.

Lukaszk said the commis-



Former deputy premier Thomas Lukaszk hopes more can be revealed. METRO FILE

sioner's investigation did as much as could be done.

"She did a great job considering her limitation in the law, with how far she could go with this," he said. "At least it lets Albertans know that this is the dark side of politics."

Lukaszk said he would like more information to be released

and more work done to pinpoint who leaked his cellphone bills to the media. He said releasing more information would help him demonstrate the bill was necessary, but it's also important for Albertans to have transparency.

"This has to do with how government behaves and conducts itself."



It lets Albertans know that this is the dark side of politics.

Thomas Lukaszk

NUISANCE

Pokémon lawsuit launched by Albertan

A Canadian class-action lawsuit has been filed on behalf of an Albertan woman against California-based Niantic Inc., the creator of Pokémon Go, saying she's suffering from an invasion of privacy.

Barbra-Lyn Schaeffer said Wednesday that she's been inundated by Pokémon Go players at her home 160 kilometres (99 miles) northeast of Calgary ever since it became the site of a Pokémon gym.

Pokémon Go gyms are places where players congregate and battle it out to take control of the area for a selected team.

Usually, gyms are designated to churches or public buildings.

Schaeffer said people have been trying to crawl over her fence into the grounds of her home.

"The way I look at it, the game is fine. My kids play it, my grandkids play it but just don't do it at my house," Schaeffer said.

Schaeffer said there are people sitting out in front of their home at all hours of the day and night.

"We moved out here to be in the quiet, not to have people climb up over my fence," she said. The lawsuit was filed in Calgary and has not been certi-



Pokémon Go app. FILE

fied by the courts, which determines whether it can proceed.

Schaeffer said she sent a request to Niantic asking her home be removed and only received a computer-generated response saying the company would look into it.

The idea of launching the class-action lawsuit isn't about the money, she said. No dollar amount has been set.

"I just want to be left alone," she said.

Calgary attorney Clint Docken, whose firm is handling the case, said a similar class-action lawsuit has been launched in the United States.

Docken said Schaeffer is the only plaintiff at this point, but he expects others.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ENVIRONMENT

Group educates on water



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society held a festival Wednesday to educate Edmontonians about their water — and what they say is its lack of protection.

Edmonton's drinking water comes from the North Saskatchewan River. But according to Alison Ronson, with CPAWS, fewer people realize where that water actually comes from.

It starts off the toe of the Saskatchewan Glacier in Banff, and as that water moves east, it picks up a whopping 86 per cent of its flow from precipitation and springs as it travels through what's known as the Bighorn Backcountry, a relatively wild area near Nordegg.

What's concerning, she said, is that many parts of the Bighorn allow industrial activity.

She added that events like the recent oil spill in Saskatchewan have highlighted the need for people to be more protective of water supplies.

The organization is pushing for the area to be designated as a wildland provincial park, to make sure water continue to flow into Edmonton faucets long into the future.

APOLOGY

Earls mea culpa to ranchers

The president of Earls restaurant chain is apologizing to Canadian beef ranchers, taking to the stage at an industry conference in Calgary to disavow the company's "dumb" strategy last spring to only buy beef raised in the United States.

Mo Jessa says the company now knows that it deeply offended the Canadian cattle industry in April when it announced it would buy all of its beef from an American supplier that had a "Certified Humane" designation. The move prompted outrage and threats of a boycott.

He says the company won't make the same mistake again, a declaration met with applause from hundreds of beef industry conference delegates gathered in south Calgary. The restaurant chain reversed its decision and in June signed supplier deals with Canadian ranchers who raise cattle without antibiotics, steroids or added hormones.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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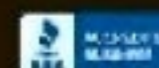
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Area hopping with rabbits

CAUSES

Rescue group looks to adopt out displaced bunny colony

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

It turns out the phrase "breeding like rabbits" is firmly grounded in reality.

A group of residents looking to rescue a colony of domesticated rabbits at a north-side car dealership has found it to be true, as they have removed nearly 150 rabbits from the site.

Organizer Blane Klack said he first heard about the colony at the City Ford Dealership on St. Albert Trail from a friend.

"She had been seeing them for a year and said it sucks that no one is doing anything about it," he said.

Klack said that he started rescuing the bunnies from the grounds and taking them to animal shelters across the



The City Ford dealership on the north side and several nearby properties have become home for a large group of the formerly domesticated animals, originating from a farm. KEVIN TUONG / FOR METRO

province.

The group has a Facebook page and is fundraising to help cover expenses.

He said the colony is made up of formerly domesticated rabbits who made the dealer-

ship their home.

"They came from a farm about 20 years ago that was across the street from the dealership. Once the people moved they just let the rabbits go and they migrated to the

dealership and just kept doing what bunnies do," he said.



They migrated to the dealership and kept doing what bunnies do.

Blane Klack

Klack said the rabbits he has picked up are often in bad health and a tempting target for owls, coyotes and other predators.

"I haven't seen them getting hurt [but] they don't look in good shape," he said.

He said while they might seem like wild animals they behave like house pets.

"In my house alone, I have 11 and they are all just the sweetest things," he said.

Klack said most of the rabbits have been sent to shelters, but those shelters can't take any more and more need to be adopted before they can bring more inside.

He is encouraging people to come forward and adopt them from either the Edmonton or Red Deer Humane Societies.

"There are only 20 plus some babies left out there, so a small handful compared to what it was," he said. "If I can get the rabbits in my care adopted out, I can basically go and get the rest of the colony out of there."

CONSTRUCTION

Building permits plummet

The city has seen a huge drop in building permits.

About \$1 billion in building permits were taken out in the second quarter of this year, only about half of what was taken out in the first quarter, according to numbers released by the city's chief economist.

John Rose said the steep decline likely means a slow construction season for 2017.

The drop in construction activity has hit all sectors, with declines in residential, industrial and commercial construction. Rose said the big declines in multi-family housing make sense, because the city will likely see a lot fewer new residents in a downturn.

Rose said he's optimistic that promised federal and provincial infrastructure spending will help boost the economy again.

He also said with so many major projects underway, the city has been sheltered from the worst of the struggling economy, but many of those projects are wrapping up.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO



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Riley Rossmo re-imagines his Batman, but with a Metro News logo. COURTESY RILEY ROSSMO

From comic clerk to Batman artist

ARTWORK

Illustrator drawing the Dark Knight for DC Comics



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Riley Rossmo chases the dissatisfaction in his work.

The Calgary artist went from working behind the counter at Another Dimension Comics almost a decade ago to drawing his first two issues of Batman, due out this fall.

It's a dream for anyone caught doodling behind the counter, but Rossmo is far from satisfied.

Let's pull back the pages a bit to the first day Rossmo seemingly hit the big time: a publisher had agreed to put out his first book, and they sent a box of the comics to his front

door. It felt cool for a moment. "I took one out, I touched it — and all I could see was mistakes," he recalled.

These mornings he wakes up and draws Batman. And every time he's satisfied with a layout, he wants to work harder on his marks — or if the marks are up to par, it's his brush stroke.

It's a special commitment that lead the artist from Proof, Cowboy Ninja Viking and DC's own Hellblazer to champion the look and feel of the Dark Knight.

Batman: Night of the Monster Men

"I don't feel like I'm mainstream enough to be working on a Batman book, but they really liked my monster designs," Rossmo laughed.

The mega event involves a number of different Bat-family comic book titles, including Nightwing and Batwoman. They'll all come together, led by Batman, to battle kaiju — or giant monsters.

Rossmo designed all the mon-

sters, and the look and feel of the comic event, in addition to drawing out two issues.

"Batman: Night of the Monster Men could not exist without the twisted creative mind of Riley Rossmo," said writer Steve Orlando. "We set out to show people things they've never seen before with a bat symbol — and Riley is doing his best work to deliver that and blow your faces off."

The Process

When working with big ideas, Rossmo starts small. He starts with a thumbnail sketch, done in pencil, of what he wants the art to look like. Then he scans and blows it up to a 3 x 5 image — about half the size of a printed page.

He tightens his details, then scans it again, blows it up to full size, digitally adds in backgrounds, prints the whole thing off and inks it in with a brush and technical pens before one more final scan to add digital effects.

ONTARIO

Terror suspect killed

Terrorism suspect Aaron Driver was killed in a confrontation with police in the Southern Ontario town of Strathroy.

Driver, originally from Winnipeg and in his mid-20s, was under a court order not to associate with any terrorist organization, including Daesh.

The RCMP said it received credible information of a potential terrorist threat earlier in the day.

A suspect was identified and the "proper course of action has been taken" to ensure that there was no danger to the public, the carefully worded statement said.

In February, Driver's lawyer and the Crown agreed to a peace bond stating there are "reasonable grounds to fear that he may participate, contribute directly or indirectly in the activity of a terrorist group."

Police and government officials were tight-lipped about the violent events that unfolded in the town near London, Ont.

Without providing details, Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale said Wednesday night he had spoken to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau "to confirm that public safety has been and continues to be properly protected."

The RCMP, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service and other police and security agencies were involved in the operation, he added.

In Strathroy, resident Irene Lee said late Wednesday that since about 4:15 p.m., police had been camped outside the home where Driver lived.

At about that time, she said she was at her own home close by when she heard a loud noise. She said shortly afterward, a police officer came by to tell residents to stay inside their homes.

Lee said there were up to 25 marked and unmarked cruisers outside Driver's Park Street residence all Wednesday evening.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PRINCE GEORGE, B.C.

Beloved pig recovering from dog attack



Rex the pot-bellied pig.
DAYNA DENMAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A pig with a profile is getting even more attention in Prince George, B.C., as he recovers from a mauling by two dogs.

Rex is a miniature pot-bellied pig who entertains at children's birthday parties, but he was hospitalized after being attacked on July 18. His owner, Dayna Denman, 23, said there's a twist that makes the pig's tale more traumatizing for her.

"He wouldn't have flinched if they came up to him, because he's so used to dogs," she said.

"He thinks he's a dog."

Denman rushed from work to her two-hectare property in search of Rex after her boyfriend phoned to say the pig wasn't responding to the rattling of his food bowl. Then she received a text from a neighbour and found her beloved pet bleeding badly.

"(Rex) was down there in thick bush. He was not doing well at all. He was in shock. He was basically lying there to die," she said.

The pig's condition peaked and then plummeted. The vets

told Denman that Rex's tendons in his legs had ruptured and they might have to put him down.

Veterinarian Jodyne Green said Rex suffered extensive puncture wounds and lacerations all over his body. His ears could not be saved. She said the vets were swayed against euthanasia when the pig climbed into Denman's lap. "He's got the heart of a lion," said Green. Last week, the vets revised the pig's prognosis and predicted he would survive.

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Libs' costly scramble

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Emails reveal rush to get minister home for C-14 vote

Federal officials scrambled to book costly last-minute flights in order to bring a cabinet minister back to Ottawa earlier this year in time for an expected vote on the government's controversial doctor-assisted dying bill.

International Development Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau was attending a conference in Copenhagen when officials at Global Affairs Canada got word the Liberals wanted her back in the House of Commons — and quickly.

"We just received a call from the whip's office," a staffer wrote to Bibeau and his col-

leagues in one of several emails obtained by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act.

"The Minister needs to be back in Ottawa for a vote tomorrow afternoon. She is to be back for 3 p.m.," he wrote in the May 17 email, sent at 4:53 p.m.

He added: "I am not joking."

The mad dash from around the world followed an embarrassing near-miss for the Liberals, when the New Democrats and Conservatives caught chief government whip Andrew Leslie off guard with a surprise vote on an Air Canada bill.

That prompted Leslie and his office to pull out all the stops to avoid being similarly caught out when it came time to vote on Bill C-14, the controversial assisted-suicide legislation — including calling a handful of cabinet ministers home from overseas trips.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Marie-Claude Bibeau. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Killer whales and humpback whales off Jordan River, B.C., west of Victoria, B.C. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

VANCOUVER

Whale watchers see battle of behemoths

A whale watching association says a battle between some of the largest creatures in the seas off the coast of British Columbia appeared to end with the human equivalent of fist waving and name calling, although they can't be sure of the outcome.

Several whale watching boats at the western edge of the Salish Sea off Jordan River on Vancouver Island spotted a group of transient orcas sur-

rounding two adult humpback whales and a calf on Sunday.

Mark Malleson, a whale watching captain and marine researcher, witnessed the fight.

He says in a news release issued by the Pacific Whale Watch Association that encounters between humpbacks and transient orcas, also known as Bigg's killer whales, rarely result in a kill.

Transient orcas eat marine mammals but Malleson says

it seems as if the species "just likes bugging" the much bigger humpbacks.

Naturalist Valerie Shore also saw the standoff from another boat and says most of the action happened below the surface but there was huffing, puffing and occasional swipes of their tails from the humpbacks as they blocked access to the calf.

She says the adult humpbacks finally chased off the orcas, but she and her crew

suspect the calf may have suffered a torn tail, although they couldn't get close enough to confirm it. "We saw what we thought at the time was a large blood burst," Shore says in the release from the association.

Malleson radioed later to say the burst was whale feces, which Shore speculates may have been a defence mechanism or the response of a very frightened young humpback.

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A man scales the face of the 58-storey Trump Tower in New York, Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man scales walls of Trump Tower

NEW YORK

Climber with suction cups leads police on chase

A man spent more than 2 1/2 hours scaling the glass facade of Trump Tower on Wednesday using large suction cups, climbing as high as the 21st floor before police officers grabbed him and hauled him to safety through an open window.

The climber had a backpack and used a harness and rope stirrups to fasten himself to the side of the 58-storey Manhattan skyscraper.

Police officers smashed windows and broke through a ventilation duct in an attempt to block his progress. Officers also lowered themselves toward him using a window washer's platform.

For a long time, the climber played a slow-motion cat-and-mouse game with his would-be rescuers, keeping his distance by methodically working his way back and forth across the facade and angled corners of the building. When would-be rescuers smashed a window above him, he ducked to avoid big shards of glass that fell.

The chase ended dramatically just after 6:30 p.m.

As a crowd gasped on the street below, two officers leaning far out of a window frame where the glass was removed



grabbed the climber's arm and backpack, and in a flash yanked him from his dangling stirrups.

He went through the opening head first, his legs pointed skyward.

Police had deployed large, inflated crash pads at the scene, but it was unclear whether they were positioned close enough to where the man was climbing to offer any protection if he fell.

The tower is headquarters to Donald Trump's Republican presidential campaign and his business empire. Trump also lives there, though he was in

Virginia in the afternoon and was headed to Florida for an evening event.

A Trump campaign spokeswoman didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

"This man performed a ridiculous and dangerous stunt," Michael Cohen, an executive at the Trump Organization, said in an emailed statement. "I'm 100 per cent certain the NYPD had better things to do."

Terraces and other parts of the building are open to the public during the day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fire rips through maternity ward

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

12 newborn babies killed in huge blaze

A fire ripped through a maternity ward at a Baghdad hospital overnight, killing 12 newborn babies, government officials said Wednesday, a deadly blaze that was likely caused by faulty electrical wiring.

By morning, grief-stricken fathers searched for their missing newborns in vain while angry relatives gathered outside the Yarmouk hospital in western Baghdad blamed the government for the tragedy. Some of the babies who perished were prematurely born, a doctor at the hospital said.

The hospital director, Saad Hatem Ahmed, said the blaze broke out late on Tuesday night and that the initial investigation indicated it was an electrical fire. Ahmed said 29 female patients and eight babies were moved from the ward

where the fire broke out and transferred to another hospital.

Baghdad authorities initially sealed off the hospital but later allowed some media into the site.

At the maternity ward, forensic teams in masks and protective gloves were seen searching through the rubble and charred pieces of furniture. A yellow tape stretched across the ward entrance, preventing reporters from getting closer.

Outside, crying relatives claimed some of the babies were still missing and demanded an answer from authorities.

One father, 30-year-old Hussein Omar, a construction worker, said he lost twins in the blaze, a baby boy and a girl born last week. The hospital told him to go look for them at another Baghdad hospital where some of the patients were moved to during the fire.

He said he looked and couldn't find them anywhere so he came back to Yarmouk. The hospital staff then told



Burnt incubators stand outside Yarmouk hospital.

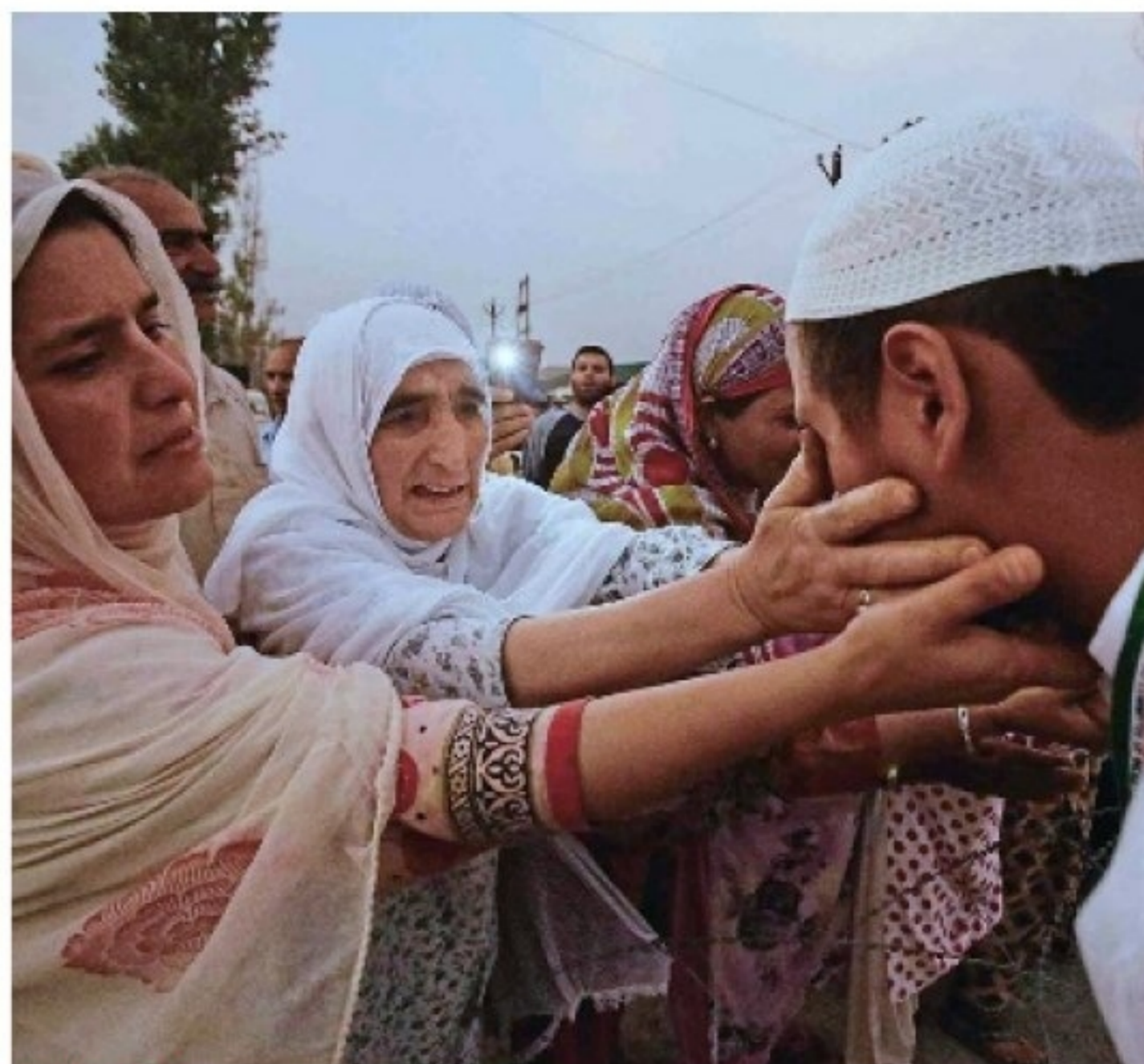
AFP/GETTY IMAGES

him to go look at the morgue. "I only found charred pieces of flesh," Omar said, crying.

Nearby, Shaima Hassan stood dazed and trembling in shock after losing her two-day-old son. The 36-year old had spent more than a year visiting hospitals in and outside Iraq trying to conceive.

"I waited for ages to have this baby and when I finally had him, it took only a second to lose him," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



PILGRIMAGE THE HAJJ BEGINS IN KASHMIR A Kashmiri Muslim pilgrim is greeted by relatives and neighbors as he leaves for the annual hajj pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca, in Srinagar, Indian-controlled Kashmir, Wednesday. The hajj pilgrimage, which is among the five pillars of Islam, attracts around 3 million Muslims worldwide each year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A rare mosaic floor dating to the 4th century, in Akaki village, Cyprus, on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CYPRUS

Rare chariot race mosaic is discovered

A mosaic floor dating to the 4th century and depicting scenes from a chariot race in the hippodrome has been uncovered, the only one of its kind in Cyprus and one of only a handful in the world, a Cypriot archaeologist said Wednesday.

Cyprus Antiquities Department archaeologist Fryni Hadjichristofi told the Associated Press that out of the many hundreds of ancient mosaic floors discovered around the world, only around seven depict similar chariot races at the hippo-

drome.

What distinguishes this mosaic is its ornate detail and the fact that it depicts complete scenes from race in which four chariots, each with a team of four horses, are competing. This may be representative of different

factions in competition with each other in ancient Rome.

"The hippodrome was very important in ancient Roman times, it was the place where the emperor appeared to his people and projected his power," said Hadjichristofi.

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Torched giant T replaced

U.S. CAMPAIGN

Trump backer builds 16-foot letter on lawn of his house

A huge red-white-and-blue letter T with an American flag theme in tribute to Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump has risen on a New York lawn days after a slightly smaller one was torched there.

Trump supporter Sam Pirozzolo stood proudly Wednesday on his front lawn in Staten Island by the 16-foot-high letter, almost as tall as his house.

The T, ringed by a fence, is painted in latex on foam insulation with a wooden support frame. The few surviving pieces of the original T are still charred black.

Investigators are trying to determine who sneaked up under cover of darkness and set fire to artist Scott LoBaido's original 12-foot-high T on Sunday, about three



Sam Pirozzolo talks to a reporter in front of his house where a giant "T" is displayed in the borough of Staten Island in New York, Wednesday. SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

months after it was installed. Pirozzolo blames "pro-Hillary Clinton thugs."

Pirozzolo was awakened at about 1 a.m. when a passing motorist knocked on his door

to alert him about the fire.

He rushed out as the Trump tribute was going up in flames, "and the first thing that came to my mind was, 'Oh, my God, this is like the

Ku Klux Klan burning a cross on my lawn, telling me that I have to shut up.' Instead, Pirozzolo, who's a 52-year-old optician, and the artist set to work the next day, assembling

another installation.

Pirozzolo said Trump called him on Monday, thanking him and LoBaido for their show of support. Pirozzolo's wife and two teenage kids listened in.

On Wednesday, passing motorists honked and shouted their approval.

LoBaido said the T is his response to the harassment of Trump supporters, including signs with Trump's name being pulled up from their lawns.

On Tuesday afternoon, hundreds of people appeared after the new T went up, singing "God Bless America" and shouting comments opposing Clinton, the Democratic presidential nominee.

The new T "is a symbol of the freedom of speech that we have that's been taken away from us," said Tina Matula, a 39-year-old Republican and Staten Island native now living in Sayreville, New Jersey.

She said she had her two young daughters with her to teach them they have the right "to be able to express how you feel politically."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANSAS WATERPARK

Boy was beheaded on slide

The 10-year-old boy killed during a ride on the world's tallest waterslide was decapitated in the accident, a person familiar with the investigation said Wednesday. Authorities have yet to explain how it happened.

The person was speaking on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak publicly about the death of Caleb Schwab Sunday on the "Ver-ruckt" raft ride at the Schlitterbahn WaterPark in Kansas City, Kansas.

Two women who are not family members were also in the raft at the time and were treated for facial injuries. The boy's parents — Republican state Rep. Scott Schwab and his wife, Michele — have not spoken publicly since the death. His funeral is scheduled for Friday.

The park reopened Wednesday except for a large section that includes the waterslide, although its towering profile greeted visitors when they drove through the entrance.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RETAIL

Giant Tiger looking at an expanded role

For 55 years, Giant Tiger's smiling feline mascot has beckoned shoppers, mostly in small towns and cities, and those making a pit stop on the way to the cottage.

But after years of operating under the radar amid intense competition against rivals like Walmart and the now defunct Target Canada, the company is setting its sights on becoming a household name.

The Ottawa-based retailer currently operates 220 stores and has a goal of opening 10 to 15 new stores every year for

the next three to five years.

The company also has plans to revamp the design of its locations and increase its product offerings in order to build a better shopping experience. Growing its e-commerce business has also been a top priority.

Selling everything from groceries to big-screen TVs, the national discount chain credits the key to its survival and more importantly, its success over the last half-century, to delivering value to shoppers in the know.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Giant Tiger plans to revamp the design of its locations. CONTRIBUTED

IN BRIEF

Delta struggles through third day of problems

Delta fliers faced delays, cancellations and more headaches Wednesday as the Atlanta-based airline struggled with its computer systems for the third straight day. Nearly 300 flights were cancelled by the afternoon.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A storm-damaged barley field near Cremona, Alta., on Tuesday tells the tale of two summers — too much rain in the west and drought in the east. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Concerns are raised over state of crops

HARVEST

Farmers deal with drought in east, rain on the prairies

It's a tale of two summers this year in Canada, with rain — and the lack of it — causing concerns about the state of the country's crops.

In Ontario, officials are forecasting a strong fruit harvest but add that unusually dry condi-

tions could mean some crops will have smaller yields and costs will be higher for many farmers.

"This year is definitely one of the driest, if not the driest, we have on record for April through July," said Environment Canada meteorologist Peter Kimbell.

Nonetheless, Ontario's Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs says the fruit harvest could be double last year's — when spring frost hurt apple crops, in particular.

That's despite the fact that vegetables like broccoli, corn

and soybeans are struggling in the low-moisture, high-heat conditions the province is facing this summer.

Charles Stevens, an apple and berry grower and chairman of the Ontario Apple Growers, said the lack of moisture has forced many farmers to "hand thin" — picking fruit before it ripens to ensure that the fruit that remains can grow to maturity, which reduces the size of the harvest and drives up costs.

The story is the reverse in the prairies, where relentless rainstorms in Alberta and Saskatch-

ewan have meant increased risk of rot and disease in what could otherwise be a bumper year.

Daphne Cruise, a Saskatchewan crop specialist, said lentils and other pulses, which farmers planted in big numbers because of the increased price and their recent popularity among consumers, are most vulnerable to the moisture.

The big rainstorms across the prairies have also brought lots of hail, sometimes the size of tennis balls, something Cruise notes has further damaged crops. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CHANTAL HÉBERT ON A PATRONAGE PROBLEM



Perhaps for fear of undermining the credibility of the panel tasked with vetting the Energy East pipeline, the Liberal government has not asked Harper's pre-election appointees to recuse themselves.

In the dying days of his government, Stephen Harper went to considerable lengths to ensure that the National Energy Board panel tasked with vetting the controversial Energy East pipeline be made up of commissioners hand-picked by the Conservatives — regardless of the election outcome.

In the months prior to the election call, Harper re-appointed to various boards and agencies dozens of people whose terms were not due to expire until after the federal election.

In the case of the NEB, Harper handed Justin Trudeau a full roster. The Liberals will not have a vacancy to fill among the temporary members of the board until 2018 — by which time it will have reported on all major pipeline projects currently in the works. The next permanent vacancy will not come up until after the next federal election.

Two of the three members of the Energy East panel that, as of this week, has been conducting hearings into TransCanada's plan to link Alberta's oilfields to the Atlantic Coast were among Harper's appointments.

In the normal scheme of events, Jacques Gauthier and Lyne Mercier would have been up for replacement in December 2015 — almost a full month after the swearing-in of Trudeau's government.

Trudeau has reiterated his government's determination to restore public confidence in the pipeline process.

Instead, both had their terms preventively renewed over the final weeks and months of the last Conservative Parliament.

It is a rare person who gets appointed to a public task by a prime minister not once or twice but three times over less

Conservative appointees to ask them to voluntarily relinquish their functions.

But perhaps for fear of undermining the credibility of the Energy East panel even before it had begun its public hearings, or to deflect accusa-

Charest. He was then a consultant for TransCanada.

When National Observer broke the story last month, the NEB insisted Energy East was not on the agenda. But last week, the agency retracted itself. Notes from the meetings show the pipeline was indeed up for discussion, as were various strategies to advance the file. Gauthier, who initiated the meeting with Charest, specifically wrote in an email obtained by National Observer that he wanted to talk about the TransCanada project.

On Tuesday Environment Minister Catherine McKenna declined to comment on the panel's behind-closed-doors dealings with parties that have a direct or indirect interest in the outcome of its review of Energy East, or their potential impact on the NEB's credibility as an independent agency. But ignoring the elephant in the room will not make it go away.

Since he has become prime minister, Trudeau has reiterated his government's determination to restore public confidence in the pipeline approval process. With NEB reform out of their reach for the foreseeable future, the Liberals have committed to hold separate additional consultations focused on the environment and the rights of indigenous people prior to the cabinet coming to a final decision.

But the NEB, whose official task it is to determine if a pipeline is in the national interest and recommend accordingly a way forward to the government, remains a cornerstone of the process and it is hard to build on sand.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro on Thursdays.



HOLDOVERS The National Energy Board's Energy East Panel: Roland George, Lyne Mercier and Jacques Gauthier. Mercier and Gauthier were appointed by Stephen Harper. CONTRIBUTED

than a decade.

Gauthier is such a rarity. Remember the 2010 Vancouver Olympic winter games and the viral controversy that erupted in the face of a distinct deficit of French at the opening ceremony? Gauthier happened to head the advisory council responsible for insuring that the games reflected Canada's linguistic duality.

Notwithstanding that public relations fiasco, he also served on the Prime Minister's Advisory Committee on the Public Service prior to being appointed and reappointed to the NEB.

After iPolitics uncovered Harper's deathbed patronage spree, the incoming Liberal government did write to 33

tions that it was interfering with an independent tribunal, it did not — at least in writing — put Gauthier and Mercier on notice.

By the time Trudeau took office, the two had already stretched the notion of the arm's-length relationship that is expected to preside over the dealings between an NEB panel and the proponents and opponents of a given project.

In the months prior to their reappointments by Harper in early 2015, the two participated in a series of private meetings with various Quebec constituencies — mostly but not exclusively from the pipeline corporate sector.

One of those they met was former Quebec premier Jean

Forget the hijab and just watch the women play



Deena Douara
For Metro

The image is a Rorschach test. You know, that tool psychologists use to determine you feel abandoned by your father.

Objectively, the photo shows two young female athletes leaping for the same volleyball after working very hard to earn a spot at the Rio Games. One of them is wearing a bikini, the other full sleeves, tight pants and hijab.

Beyond those 38 words, the next 962 are yours to fill in. Does the image represent a clash of civilizations or backwardness of religion? Or does it show unity at the Olympics? The beauty of diversity, and the power of sport?

It's no surprise, perhaps, that what should be a conversation around athleticism, skill and competition instead has become a conversation about what Muslim women wear, after changes before the 2012 Olympics gave women more flexibility on what they could wear in beach volleyball. Allowing the hijab was a last-minute "concession" this year, according to the BBC.

Considering their outfits pose no harm to themselves or opponents, there is no value to having the what-Muslim-women-wear conversation. You're worried they're hot or that they're putting themselves at a disadvantage? Stop worrying. They've got this. They didn't qualify because of a quota

— they earned their spot. You don't like how it looks? Great, don't buy the outfit. They're oppressed? They've made a choice for themselves, are confident enough to not conform to Olympic expectations, excelled at an uncommon sport, and have put themselves before the eyes of millions of judges. I don't know either of the players, but my guess is that they own their story and their decisions, just like the rest of the veiled Egyptian women whom I know.

Nineteen-year-old Doaa Elghobashy told the Associated Press that she has worn the hijab for 10 years. "It doesn't keep me away from the things I love to do," she explained. She and teammate Nada Meawad (not veiled but similarly attired), are the first beach volleyball team from Egypt at the Olympics.

Apparently, Elghobashy placed a higher priority on personal values and beliefs than on some unknown and unquantifiable potential competitive benefit. People I know have called that stupid. I call it admirable. But I also call it irrelevant.

The Egyptian team faces Canada today. What I'll be watching, if I watch, is two teams that have worked hard, put in long hours, overcome doubt, and made personal sacrifices leap towards a ball above a net. Which is really the only thing that's truly knowable about this image.

Deena Douara is a writer living in Toronto



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Jose Bautista's collab with Canada Goose goes on sale tonight on Harryrosen.com. The jacket is "somewhat hip but a little bit classy. Sleeker than a puffy."

5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT CUPPING



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Why do some Olympians look like they just fought off an octopus? Their round, hickey-like marks are from cupping, an alternative therapy that involves putting suction cups on the skin. It's said to treat everything from pain to chickenpox to cancer.

How it works depends on whom you ask: freeing blocked energy; activating natural healing mechanisms; even "drawing out excess fluids and toxins." Here's what you need to know about this trendy (and dubious) procedure.

Cupping is very, very old

Cupping is part of traditional Chinese medicine as well as Middle Eastern healing practices that date back thousands of years. Ancient Greek physician Herodotus was a fan circa 400 BCE, as was the Prophet Muhammad in the sixth century.

There are two main types

"Dry cupping" involves sticking a flame inside of a cup to create a vacuum, then applying it to the body to suck the skin inside. Sometimes a suction pump is used instead. "Wet cupping" combines this with bloodletting by puncturing the skin first.

It has some famous fans

Alternative-health aficionado Gwyneth Paltrow has been cupping since before it was cool. She was photographed in 2004 with the telltale welts on her back. Other devotees include Lena Dunham, Justin Bieber, Jennifer Aniston and Olympic athlete Michael Phelps (shown), who sported cupping marks in the pool earlier this week in Rio.

It can go really wrong

Usually, the only side effect is bruising. Wet cupping, because it requires cutting, has an infection risk. Dry cupping is playing with fire: It involves wielding open flame near bare skin. One case of necrosis (tissue death) and sepsis (blood poisoning) from cupping done repeatedly to the same spot has been reported in Australia.

There's almost no proof it works

Studies of cupping have been small, poorly designed and highly susceptible to bias. There's some indication the practice may help relieve pain, though it's not clear if the benefit is anything other than psychological.

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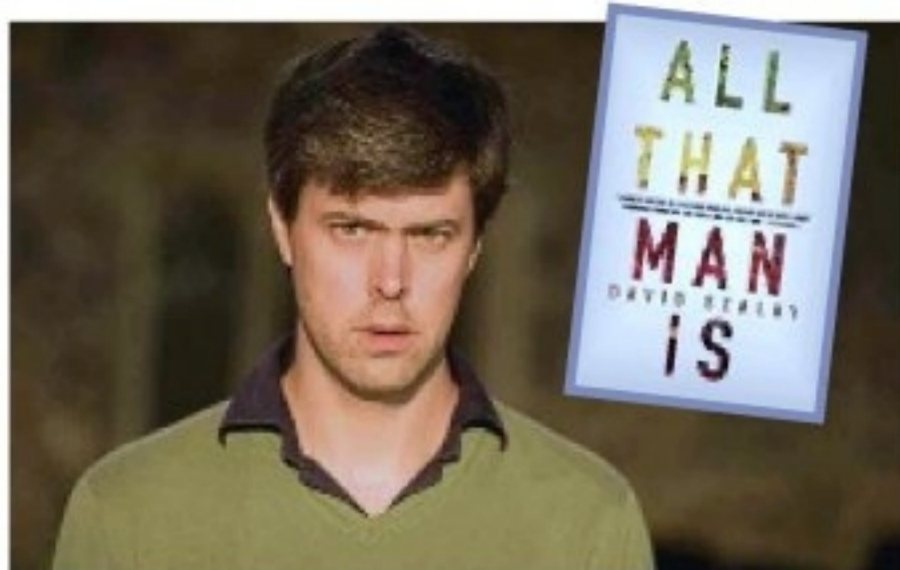
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AWARDS

David Szalay eyes Man Booker Prize



"I just wanted to write about men, generally," says David Szalay of his latest book, *All That Man Is*. CONTRIBUTED

It seems somewhat fitting that David Szalay found out about his Man Booker Prize nomination, which came as a big surprise to the Canadian-born writer, while vacationing in Europe. After all, his long listed novel, *All That a Man Is*, is a snapshot of nine men passing through various stages of life while collecting European stamps on their passports.

Szalay, along with Canadian writer Madeleine Thien, who was born in Vancouver, and her acclaimed novel *Do Not Say We Have Nothing*, are among a total of 13 English-language authors long listed for the approximately \$87,000 2016 Man Booker Prize.

Szalay was born in Montreal in 1974 to a Canadian mother and Hungarian father, but moved to the U.K. as an infant, where he grew up, and later attended Oxford University.

He has family in Canada, but hasn't visited in several years, though he says he still feels a connection here. It's a connection that may deepen as the Canadian awards season heats up this fall — like former Governor General's Literary Award winners Eleanor Catton, who lives in New Zealand, and Patrick DeWitt, who resides in Portland, Ore., Szalay's birth-town makes him eligible for this country's biggest book prizes.

All That a Man Is was born five years ago with Szalay's idea about a group of characters, of all different nationalities, connected through their travels. As a U.K. citizen who has lived in Belgium and Hungary, Szalay related to the feelings of being a perpetual outsider. In his own travels he had observed how the "countries and cultures of Europe rub against each other, and the way that Europe is now very much a continent of displaced people."

Yet Szalay, already the author of three well-received novels, felt a bit stuck. He had reached an impasse with his writing, and was not interested in pursuing another traditional narrative structure.

"There was something about writing about one central character, or even one group of people

in a single story interacting with each other, that I chafed against," Szalay says. But then he had another idea: presenting the novel as a series of stories featuring men of different ages.

Although there is no direct connection between these nine men, Szalay views them collectively as a "single composite character." *All That a Man Is* starts chronologically with a stoned 17-year-old on vacation in Poland desperately trying to have sex, through to the poignant story of a senior citizen in his 70s who, while contemplating the nearing end of his life, ends up in Bologna, Italy, recovering from a car accident of his own doing.

The first story Szalay wrote, about a muscular Hungarian fitness instructor who finds himself lost, contemplating his future while working as security for a sex worker and her boyfriend in London, "came very directly from my own experience of moving from one country to another," he says.

The timing of *All That a Man Is* also makes it a standout in the literary landscape, and a strong potential awards contender. Beyond the fact that the novel is grounded in its philosophical themes and cultural references, Szalay's often bleak but introspective observations conjure comparisons to Martin Amis: it's a view of contemporary manhood we haven't seen in awhile. The depth of his characters, and how they deal with emotions (often poorly), also run counter to popular depictions of contemporary masculinity, in particular, Hollywood's seeming obsession with the jokester man-child stereotype.

Szalay says he wrote all these men with a sympathetic view, in particular as they faced the aging process — although that sympathy might be tested for readers in their various interactions with women as lovers, wives, employers and objects of desire.

"Taken as a whole, I know that the characters come across in a reasonably unattractive light," he says.

SUE CARTER/METRO

Renaissance man mixes science with art in novel

JAY HOSKING

Writer's background helped pen tale of time, memory

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada



Jay Hosking knows a lot about rats. He understands their motivations and behaviour, and what makes their tiny brains tick.

As a neuroscience graduate student at the University of British Columbia, Hosking worked with rodents in a research lab, studying their decision-making skills and teaching them how to gamble. It's not surprising that his debut novel, *Three Years with the Rat*, wraps together science, psychology, mystery and yes, a rat.

Set in Toronto, *Three Years with the Rat* follows a young, aimless man only known as "Little Brother" who moves to the city to be closer to his older sister, Grace, a highly intelligent psychophysics graduate student who appears to be losing her grip on reality.

When Grace goes missing, followed by her boyfriend, John, the narrator discovers a large, handmade wooden box in their apartment, along with a lab rat and a note that says "This is the only way back for us."

Their disappearance sets the young man into a spiralling adventure, challenging known theories of time and memory.

While *Three Years with the Rat* could be easily slotted on the speculative-fiction shelf, the book also deals with relationships, both romantic and familial.

GRAPHIC NOVEL

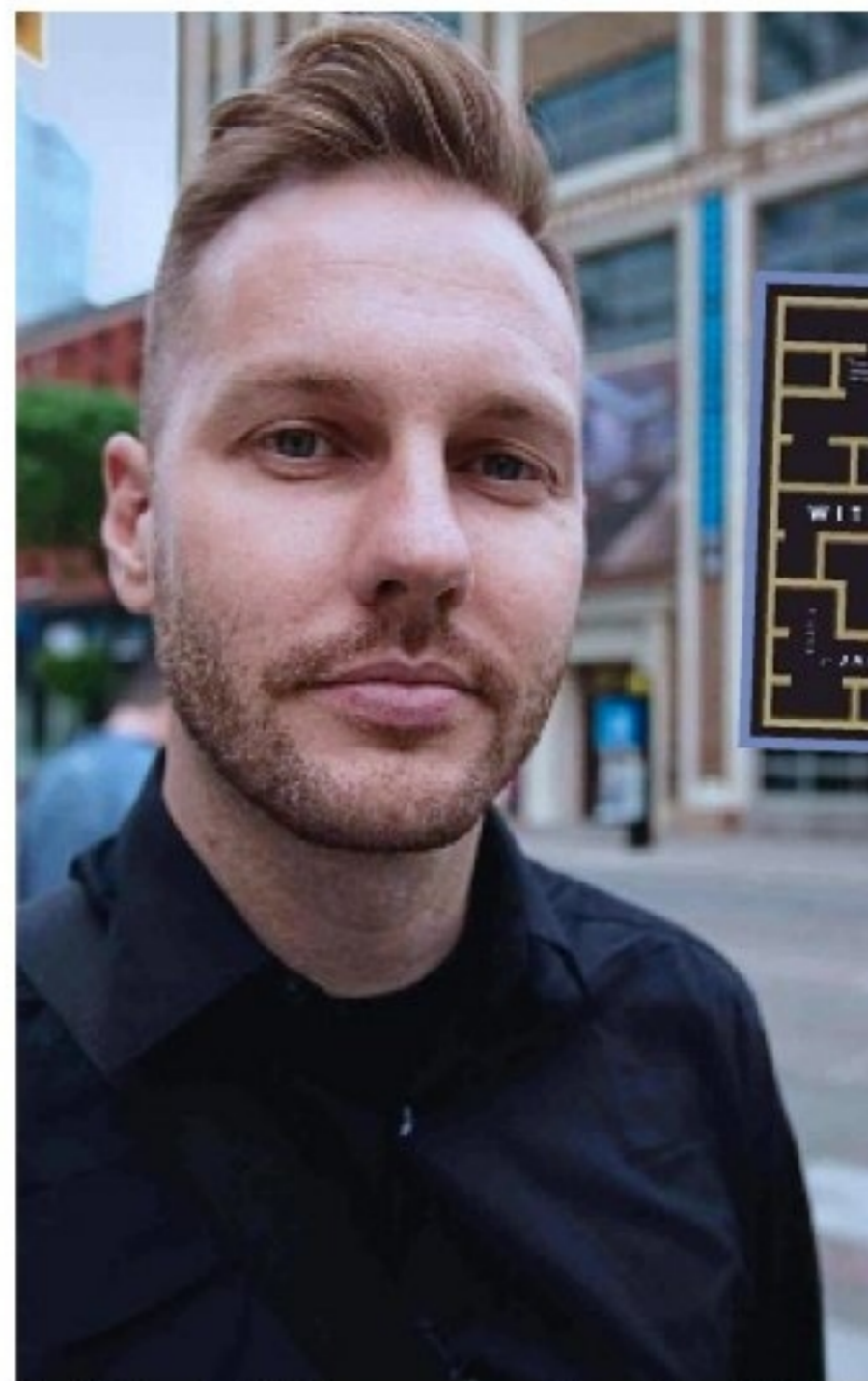
A charming anthropomorphic animal tale

Wild's End: The Enemy Within
BY: Dan Abnett and I.N.J. Culbard
PUBLISHER: Boom Studios
\$19.99, 160 pages

Mike Donachie
Metro | Canada

Unstoppable aliens have invaded the sleepy English countryside, and the army is covering it up.

The population must be told, and a plucky band of eyewitnesses must escape to raise



Jay Hosking has PhD in neuroscience along with an MFA creative writing. CONTRIBUTED

Hosking grew up reading classic science fiction, but says he owes more of his writing to the postmodern works of Paul Auster and Haruki Murakami. A self-described arts kid — his grade eight teacher told him, "Whatever you do Jay, don't go into science" — Hosking did his first degree through Fanshawe College's music-production program, working for several

years in film and television, before deciding to go back to school for neuroscience at the University of Toronto.

"I was a really late starter in terms of science. I came to that because psychology was something I was really interested in, but I wanted something a little meatier or biologically based," says Hosking, who is now working on his postdoctoral fellow-

ship at Harvard University.

While completing his PhD in neuroscience at the University of British Columbia he started writing fiction, mostly as a means of distraction. "PhDs are pretty demanding," he says.

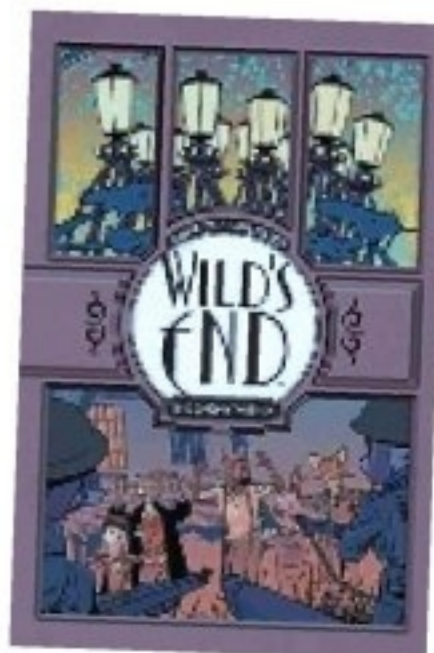
"I thought I might go crazy if I kept my head in the lab all the time." He signed up for a fiction course with author Lee Henderson, jokingly calling himself the class's "resident weirdo." Once he finished his PhD, Hosking enrolled in UBC's creative-writing MFA program, where he is now completing his fourth degree.

Although *Three Years with the Rat* deals with ambitious, sometimes mind-boggling theories, Hosking's relatively late start in studying science gives *Little Brother's* journey an empathetic edge; readers don't need a physics degree to follow the story.

"It wasn't that challenging to remember knowing nothing because I didn't start my undergraduate until 25," he says.

It may have taken Hosking a little longer to find his footing in both science and writing, but the timing of his book also couldn't be better, thanks to the popular Netflix show *Stranger Things*, which has re-ignited an interest in stories about time and other dimensions. "There's an amazing discussion happening philosophically in fiction and art," he says. "It's a deep well to be drawing from."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.



Who Shot Sports

Any professional shutterbug will tell you sports photography is among the most challenging aspects of the craft. Gail Buckland, former curator with the Royal Photographic society of Great Britain, scoured more than 50 archives, pulling the work of 165 photographers from 1843 to now for Who Shot Sports. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Rugby as art

Ray McManus, an Irish sports photographer and founder of the Sportsfile photography agency, photographed only one rugby match in 2011 — he prefers football and hurling — but it's an award winner, displaying a game in all its mud, sweat and glory that demands pure brawn from players who, unlike most sports, are fitted with minimal protective gear.



Toro

Daniel Ochoa de Olza was propitiously born in a place associated with bulls, Pamplona, Spain where an annual festival puts locals and tourists in the path of rampaging toros. Ochoa de Olza began as a painter before turning to photography and soon became fascinated with bullfighting, capturing images of famed matador Juan Jose Padilla in 2012, a series he called Bullfighter's Comeback. A year earlier, Padilla had been gored by a bull, losing an eye and requiring substantial reconstructive surgery.



Tour de France

At 40, Paolo Pellizzari was a late arrival to the game of sports photography. His sole piece of equipment is a Noblex camera with a panoramic lens that takes 135-degree images similar to the perspective of the human eye. It's an ideal camera to shoot the Tour de France, founded in 1903. The image, taken in 2000 in the village of Saint-Macaire-en-Mauges, captures the chaos of the world's most famous cycling events.



Astrodome

Jim Dow, who taught for decades at prestigious institutions such as Harvard, Princeton and Tufts University, found a particular niche in sports photography, shooting more than 300 baseball stadiums in triptych fashion. The image features the Houston Astrodome, the world's first domed sports stadium, which Dow shot in 1982. (The building, which operated from 1965 to 2000, was partially demolished in 2013 and now sits empty.)



Battle ready

In addition to his work for Sports Illustrated and France's national sports daily, Equipe, French photographer Gerard Rancinan has won numerous international awards covering natural catastrophes and conflicts around the globe, including civil and ethnic wars and urban riots. That experience is exemplified in the warlike, battle-ready pose of French epee fencer Laura Fissel, a five-time Olympic medal winner, taken in March, 2014.

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This recipe makes 10 spring pea crostinis with burrata and prosciutto. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

An app that's perfect for summer

RECIPE

Burrata crostinini perfect balance of creamy and crunchy

Gaby Dalkin is a woman after our hearts.

She worships cheese, she's a little clumsy in the kitchen and she wrote a cookbook about avocados.

Oh, and she was previously Jessica Simpson's personal chef.

This Spring Pea Crostini re-

cipe, can be found on Dalkin's What's Gaby Cooking food blog by searching I searched "burrata cheese."

If you've never heard of burrata, know it's a gooey ball of heaven that might change your life.

This lemony and savoury appetizer struck the right balance of creamy and crunchy. It's also surprisingly filling. Eat more than three and consider yourself stuffed.

The original recipe called for California Dry Jack cheese, but we substituted Old Amsterdam premium aged gouda.

The blog: What's Gaby Cooking, a food blog featuring California-inspired recipes.

The quote: "Can we talk about my love affair with California burrata cheese, because it's intense!"

"Given the opportunity, I could take down a pound or two in a matter of minutes. When it comes to self-control, it goes straight out the window when burrata cheese is involved!"

For more of Dalkin's recipes, visit whatsgabycooking.com.

Spring Pea Crostinini with Burrata and Prosciutto

Makes 10 Crostinis

Ingredients:

- 1 baguette, sliced on an angle into 10 1-inch pieces. This may not require the whole baguette
- 1/4 cup (60 mL) olive oil
- 1-1/4 cups (310 mL) frozen peas, thawed
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) mint leaves
- 1 garlic clove
- 1/3 cup (80 mL) grated Old Amsterdam premium aged gouda

- 1 lemon, juiced
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) red pepper flakes
- Kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper to taste
- 1 ball burrata cheese, room temperature
- 10 slices prosciutto

Directions:

1. Heat oven to 400F/200C. On a baking tray, place baguette slices flat and drizzle olive oil generously over each.

2. Toast bread for 2 1/2 minutes or until crispy. Flip

pieces and repeat. Remove and set crostinis on serving tray.

3. In a large food processor, combine peas, mint, garlic, gouda, lemon juice, red pepper flakes, salt and pepper. Pulse for 30 seconds. Adjust seasoning to taste.

4. On crostinis, slather 2 to 3 tablespoons pea pesto on top of each crostini. Add 1 to 2 tablespoons burrata and top with a piece of prosciutto. Repeat on other crostinis and serve immediately. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

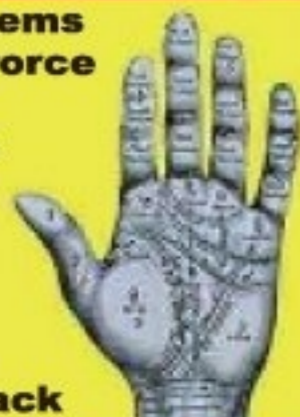
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3 BOOKS FOR FOODIES

Here's the menu: witty ruminations on food and eating.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Noshing in Naples

When **Katherine Wilson** arrives in Naples, she is a chubby girl with binge-eating disorder. Within six weeks she is eating the Neapolitan way and has lost 20 pounds. Reading the memoir **Only in Naples: Lessons in Food and Famiglia from My Italian Mother-In-Law** is like being seated around the crowded Avallone table: you eat well, pick up a smattering of Italian and learn how to cook several of the meals you've consumed.



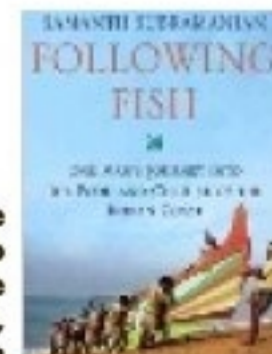
Inspiring edibles

Whatever observations about food that Roy Blount Jr. has had over the course of his 75 years have likely found their way into **Saving Room for Pie: Food Songs and Chewy Ruminations**. There are no fewer than 100 ruminations on edibles delivered in many methods: anecdotes, ideas and reminiscences.



Finding wisdom in fish

Following Fish: One Man's Journey into the Food and Culture of the Indian Coast, Samanth Subramanian is a literary travelogue of India's coastline using fish, fishing and fishermen as its frame, an undertaking that inevitably touches on geography, sport, culture and more by **Samanth Subramanian**.

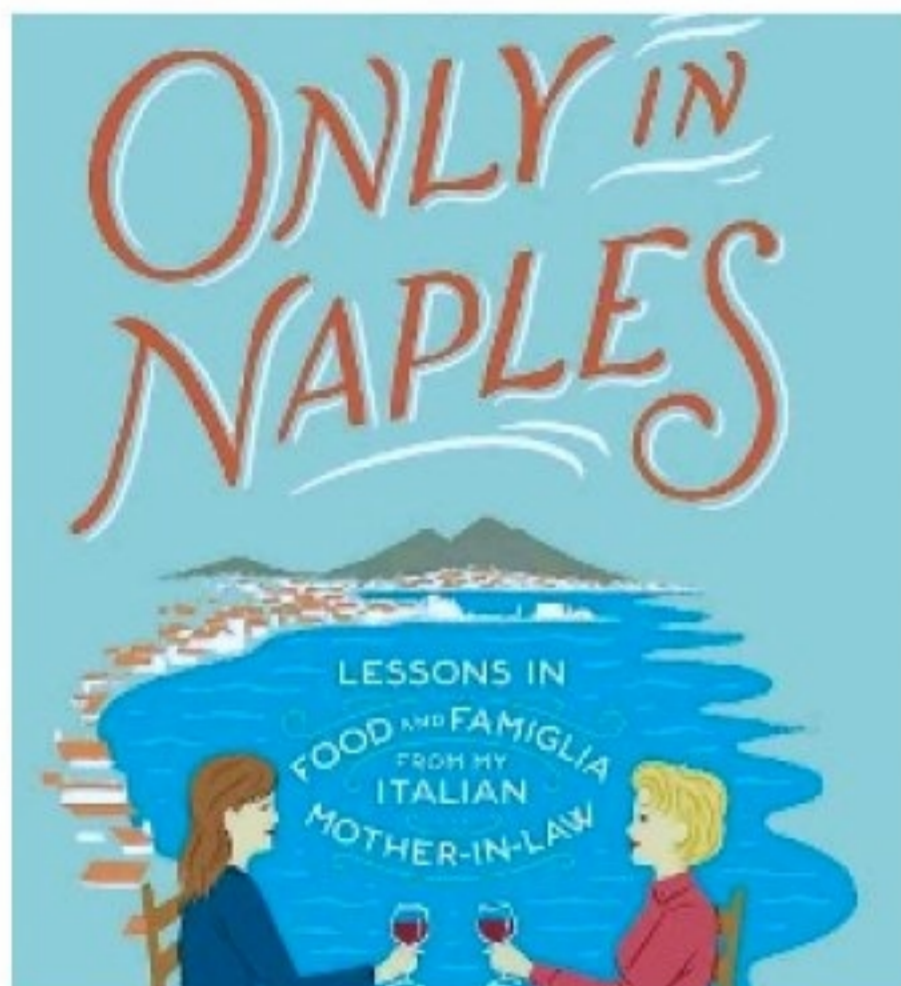


5

BOOKS FOR FOODIES: FROM HOT DOGS TO GASTRONOMY

Here's the menu: a memoir of eating well (and losing weight) in Naples; a history of Nathan's Famous, the Coney Island hot-dog empire; a journey around India's coastline in pursuit of fish; a foodie deconstruction of elBulli's molecular gastronomy; and more than 100 witty ruminations on food and eating.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



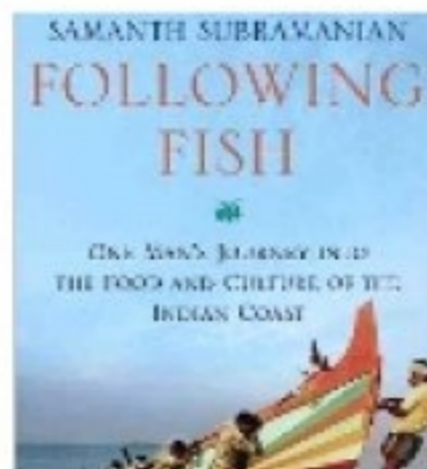
1 Noshing in Naples

When **Katherine Wilson** arrives in Naples for her "experience abroad" (a rite of passage for members of her Washington family), she is a chubby girl with binge-eating disorder. Within six weeks she is eating the Neapolitan way and has lost 20 pounds. Thanks are due to the Avallone family, specifically son Salvatore, the sweet man she falls for, and his mother Raffaella, who teaches her much about life. Reading the memoir **Only in Naples: Lessons in Food and Famiglia from My Italian Mother-in-Law** is like being seated around the crowded Avallone table: you eat well, pick up a smattering of Italian and learn how to cook several of the meals you've consumed.



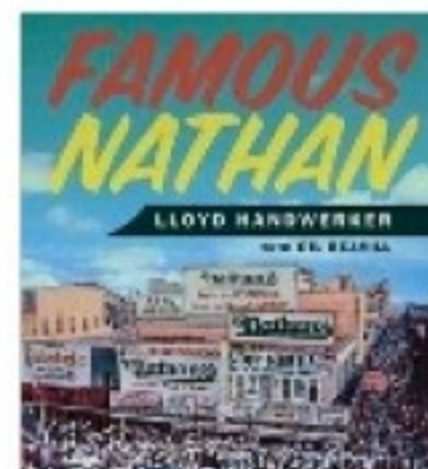
2 Inspiring edibles

Whatever observations about food that Roy Blount Jr. has had over the course of his 75 years have likely found their way into **Saving Room for Pie: Food Songs and Chewy Ruminations**. There are no fewer than 100 ruminations on edibles, some delivered in verse, some in song, some as travel notes, others set before us as news stories (real and imaginary), plus anecdotes, ideas and reminiscences (like the time he offended a black friend by serving watermelon for dessert or the time he drank a London Fog in the 1970s with America's songbird Kate Smith). This is Blount's 24th book. If you listen to the NPR's Wait, Wait ... Don't Tell Me! (and you should), then you are familiar with panel member Blount's immense affability.



3 Finding wisdom in fish

Following Fish: One Man's Journey into the Food and Culture of the Indian Coast, **Samanth Subramanian** is a literary travelogue of India's coastline using fish, fishing and fishermen as its frame, an undertaking that inevitably touches on geography, sport, culture and more by **Samanth Subramanian**. Subramanian (who isn't particularly fond of fish) made several forays from his New Delhi base, beginning in the markets of Kolkata (Kolkata) exploring the mystique surrounding the hilsa fish, and ending with the boat builders in Gujarat province. Why fishing? As he explains in his Afterword: "Fishing is still elemental in the most elemental sense of the word — an activity composed of water and air and light and space, all arranged in precarious balance."



4 A hot dog empire history

Author **Lloyd Handwerker** is the grandson of Nathan Handwerker, the founder of Nathan's Famous, the Coney Island hot-dog legend. **Famous Nathan: A Family Saga of Coney Island, the American Dream, and the Search for the Perfect Hot Dog** is a rollicking food dynasty epic beginning when Nathan leaves Poland at age 19 in 1912 and four years later, thanks mostly due to a brutal work ethic, opens a shop with a five-foot counter and finds instant success selling his dogs for a nickel while the vendors around him are charging a dime. Nathan's celebrated its centennial in July, which makes this a good time for bringing out **Famous Nathan**. Insider fact: the contestants in the eating competition are known as "gurgitators."



5 Appetite for academia?

Appetite for Innovation: Creativity & Change is an academic work by scholar **M. Pilar Opazo** who decided to deconstruct the genius of chef Ferran Adrià at elBulli, the Michelin three-star restaurant in Spain that introduced "molecular gastronomy" and "techno-emotional cooking" to our vocabulary. This is the question Opazo asks herself at the outset: "How was it possible for a restaurant in the middle of nowhere to reach and have an impact upon the world that resided outside it? How did a self-taught cook with no English skills come to be recognized as an international icon of creativity and innovation?" Heady stuff. Opazo's investigation will engage anyone interested in the intersection of business, creativity and organizational behaviour.



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JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Show's good pedigree doesn't add up to much

THE SHOW: *Feed the Beast*, Season 1, Episode 2 (AMC)
THE MOMENT: The tough-talking cop

A car screeches across the sidewalk in front of cocaine-loving chef Dion (Jim Sturgess). It's Det. Guy Giordano (Michael Rispoli), who wants Dion to gather evidence on the Tooth Fairy (Michael Gladis), a mobster who pulls the teeth of shirkers. Dion owes the Tooth Fairy, big. He gets in the car.

Guy drives. "One thing I hate: waiting," he sneers. "Cable guy. UPS. You."

"I can't just ask the Tooth Fairy to tell me all the bad things he's ever done," Dion says. "It don't work like that. But I have something interesting. The Asians are getting a huge shipment of blow, any day."



Jim Sturgess portrays Dion Patras, Elijah Jacob portrays TJ Moran and David Schwimmer portrays Tommy Moran in *Feed the Beast*, premiering Sunday. FRANK OCKENFELS/AMC VIA AP

Guy hits the brakes. He grabs Dion's crotch. "I don't give a rat's ass about the Asians," he growls. "I want that fat Polack." He clicks his tongue against his

front tooth. It's false. Looks like Tooth Fairy took his real one. Guy releases Dion. "Git outta my cah," he snarls. This series feels like it ought

to be good, but it's not. It's good-adjacent. Meaning, it has the pedigree of something good (cast, production values, network), but doesn't deliver.

Its cops and mobsters are bargain-bin copies of characters from better shows. And its twin leads (David Schwimmer plays Dion's pal, a sommelier) suffer from Antiheroitis, TV's insistence that every hero must be an antihero now.

A true antihero is a complex person with ambivalent motivations. Dion is merely a jerk who keeps doin' stupid stuff. He quickly grows tiresome. And poor Sturgess's Bronx accent sounds like curdled cottage cheese.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.



American Crime Story executive producers Brad Simpson and Nina Jacobson. EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION/AP

IN DEVELOPMENT

Hurricane Katrina as a storm of crime

As *The People v. O.J. Simpson* rides the high of its 22 Emmy nominations, the writing team behind Season 2 of the FX anthology series *American Crime Story* is hard at work on scripts for the next installment, which focuses on Hurricane Katrina.

"We want the events that brought America together and also that shine a light on the parts of America that maybe we don't want to acknowledge," said executive producer Brad Simpson.

Simpson credits series creator and writer Ryan Murphy with the idea.

But Simpson and his producing partner Nina Jacobson had long been fascinated with the topic.

"There were crimes that happened during Katrina. Murders, rapes, you know, and there's also the crime of us not rescuing these people and not being prepared to take care of New Orleans," he said.

Simpson said they "have a

book" they're working off of but also employ a researcher helping to gather information.

Simpson adds that once the scripts are more concrete, they will know which roles they have to cast.

"We'd like to use as many actors as we can. It's gonna be subject to availability whether

we have the right roles. You know, certainly Sterling (K. Brown), (John) Travolta, Sarah (Paulson), Cuba (Gooding Jr.). We'd like to figure out if there are roles for them."

He wouldn't confirm a character of former President George W. Bush, who was named in much of the criticism about Katrina.

But Simpson said, "The people that you'd imagine are probably gonna be in it, and then people that you don't know will also be in it."

Season 2 of *American Crime Story* is slated to return to FX in 2017.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Brad Simpson

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Project overview

Like many other condo projects in the area, Heritage Valley Station takes full advantage of the popularity of southwest Edmonton. This booming part of the city is rich with amenities, services and natural spaces, offering first-time buyers an affordable, modern home with access to all that Edmonton has to offer.

Housing amenities

A competitive market means thousands of dollars in upgrades for these condos. All units offer spacious kitchens with designer laminate countertops, black or white appliances, patio or balcony, energy-efficient windows and stacked laundry. Buyers choose a preferred colour motif to further personalize the condo.

Location and transit

The southwest offers easy access to all points in the city via Calgary Trail and the Anthony Henday ring road. For drivers, connections from Heritage Valley Station are moments away at 41st Avenue S.W. and Calgary Trail. A future LRT route along 122nd Street and 30th Avenue S.W. will likewise satisfy transit users. Creekwood Landing offers links to downtown and beyond.

In the neighbourhood

Heritage Valley Station, just south of the James Mowatt Trail, boasts a mix of natural features plus a planned town centre, main street retail shops and LRT station. Adjacent neighbourhoods (Allard, Callaghan, Chappelle) offer a mix of housing, schools and shopping, dining and entertainment options.

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Builder: Carlisle Group
Location: Adjacent to Anthony Henday South
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THREE AWESOME ALBERTA FESTIVALS THAT WILL MAKE YOUR SUMMER

By Lisa Monforton

Festival season is far from over in Alberta. In fact, it's just heading into its prime. In many parts of the province, the best of the festivals are yet to come over the next couple of months as summer slides towards fall. There are celebrations of quirky art, Alberta's rodeo roots, and high-flying balloons.

It's easy enough to make a mini-road trip out of any of these festivals, which last anywhere from one day to four. That leaves plenty of time to explore the highways, byways and roadside attractions in and around the host cities and towns.

Walk the chalk in Medicine Hat

Chalk Art Festival, Medicine Hat, Aug. 12-14:

The sidewalks of sunny Medicine Hat become one giant canvas for dozens of international artists who use chalk as their medium at this unique festival of in-the-moment art that fades or washes away within days.

Be prepared to do some double-takes while strolling the streets. Some of the mind-bending images are drawn by people who travel all over the world to wow onlookers with their imagination and artistry.

Don't be surprised if you're stopped in mid-step by a mermaid that appears to be swimming up from beneath the streets. Or, you could pose for a photo with a 3-D chalk-art recreation of The Beatles' Sgt. Pepper album cover, or a favourite superhero. It all looks so real.

Think you've got some chalk art chops yourself? Aspiring artists can try colouring the concrete or take a workshop to learn from a pro.

downtownmedicinehat.com



Up, up and away in High River

Heritage Inn Balloon Festival in High River, Sept. 21-25:

It's safe to say that the two French brothers who invented the hot-air balloon more than 300 years ago probably never envisioned a festival dedicated to their high-flying orbs. But plenty of eyes will be on the skies above High River during the Heritage Inn Balloon Festival.

More than two dozen hot-air balloons in a rainbow of colours will float up, up and away in a competition that relies on skill and the vagaries of the wind. Professionally trained balloon pilots compete over several days as part of the Canadian National Hot Air Balloon Championship. They'll be judged on their expertise in riding the wind.

For spectators, the highlight of the event is the "balloon glow" kick-off event at 7 p.m. on Sept. 23. As the sun sets, the balloons are lit for a breathtaking and illuminating show.

Meet the crew and pilots to learn the science behind the hot-air balloons, mankind's first airborne machine. The rest of the weekend, pilots will test their abilities in a series of competitions, such as navigating towards a marked spot and seeing who can most accurately toss a bean bag to the ground.

heritageinninternationalballoonfestival.com

And they're off! Half mile of speedy steeds

Battle of the Rockies Chuckwagon Festival, Aug. 18-21:

A chuckwagon race takes just a minute-and-a-half, but what a heck of a 90-second adrenaline rush it is. It might just be the most exciting rodeo event of them all.

These addictively fun, sit-on-the-edge-of-your-seat spectacles offer eight or nine heats each night. The Battle of the Rockies Chuckwagon Festival in Rocky Mountain House offers a hard-to-beat small-town version of the thundering hooves churning up the dust on the 5/8-mile track.

Sitting in the stands, you can almost hear the heartbeats of the horses – and perhaps even the drivers – in the nervous anticipation leading up to the blare of the claxon bell. "And they're off!" yells the announcer as the drivers, their speedy steeds and the outriders all jockey for position.

The sound of the clattering wagons is quickly drowned out when the spectators in the metal stands begin to stomp their feet as the teams of horses and their riders come into view around the final corner. And just as that the finish line horn blares, the next crew is ready to wow the crowd again.

battleoftherockies.org/schedule.htm

Carmelo Anthony tallied 31 points in a 98-88 win over Australia and became the all-time leading scorer in U.S. men's Olympic basketball



DeLaet tackling the chipping yips head on

RIO2016

'Incredible anxiety' has plagued Canuck

The golf course that will begin playing host to the first Olympic tournament in 112 years on Thursday is a zoological marvel. On a short walk around a few holes this week, you could have seen a Boss Hogg-sized capybara munching on the foliage, a flock of vultures circling overhead, several owls burrowing in the bunkers and a small crocodile sunning itself in a pond.

Unique hazards, indeed. But it's possible none of those beasts are as frightening to a golfer as the variety of wild demons that recently invaded the head space of Canadian Olympian Graham DeLaet.

It was about two months ago that DeLaet sent out a Twitter message to explain his withdrawal from the PGA Tour's Memorial tournament, telling the world he was "dealing with incredible anxiety while chipping/pitching right now." Such mental bugaboos are hardly uncommon even among the world's best players. Just this year, four-time major winner Ernie Els six-putted from six feet on the first hole of the Masters. He blamed creatures that also inhabit the environs here in Rio.



Graham DeLaet, of Weyburn, Sask., blasts out of a bunker during a practice round in Rio de Janeiro on Monday. SCOTT HALLERAN/GETTY IMAGES

"It's hard to putt when you've got snakes in your head," Els said.

Still, DeLaet's public acknowledgement of his problem amounted to a rare moment of honesty and vulnerability in the hush-hush world of pro sports. Ray Whitney, the retired NHL player who will be caddying for DeLaet at these Olympics, said it was an admission to be admired.

"That tweet showed he had a lot of balls," Whitney said. "He could have easily said that he tweaked his back or he had a wrist injury. Instead he stared it in the face and said, 'Hey everybody, I've got a little problem I need to fix.' And he's been working hard to fix it."

This week DeLaet said his issue is "actually getting much better."

Derek Ingram, Canada's men's golf coach, said DeLaet has spoken freely about his short-game shortcomings, acknowledging a flaw in his technique being addressed in practice sessions with his short-game coach, Gabriel Hjertstedt.

"He's also been using some techniques with his breathing to help him relax, so that when that situation arises he'll be able to manage the anxiety," Ingram said. "He wouldn't say he's out of the water yet. But certainly he's got some tools to work with, and he's feeling way more confident than he was." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

“Whatever Graham felt he needed to say, it's obviously helped him already. He's gonna be better for it. Teammate David Hearn

BASKETBALL

Canadian women advance to quarters

There's so much more to be accomplished that now is not the time for the Canadian basketball team to bask in its Rio Olympics accomplishment, but there is a level of a satisfaction at what's been done.

With their eyes firmly set on a place on the Games medal podium, the women took their first step in that direction on Wednesday, clinching a berth in the quarter-finals with a 68-58 victory over Senegal at the Youth Arena in the Rio suburbs.

Now 3-0 — marking the first time a women's team has ever won three games in one Olympics — Canada is tied for first place atop its group and guaranteed a second straight Games quarter-final spot.

"That's huge," Kia Nurse said

GROUPPLAY

68	58
CANADA	SENEGAL

of the historic third win. "That's just a testament to the rise of basketball on the women's side in Canada and how it's continued to grow each and every day. It's testament to those older guys on our team who've done nothing but bring this program on its rise."

Nurse had 14 points and Tamara Tatham had 13 for Canada, which once again got production up and down the lineup as 11 of the 12 women scored.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



SWIMMING OLEKSIK CAPTURES HER THIRD MEDAL

Toronto's Penny Oleksiak anchored the Canadian women to a bronze medal in the 4x200-metre freestyle on Wednesday night. Katherine Savard (Pont-Rouge, Que.), Taylor Ruck (Kelowna, B.C.), Kennedy Goss (Toronto) and Emily Overholt (West Vancouver, B.C.) were the other team members. Earlier in the evening, Oleksiak qualified for the 100-metre freestyle final, to be held Thursday. TOM PENNINGTON/GETTY IMAGES

RIO in brief

Mother Nature proving to be a formidable foe
Mother Nature was Canada's toughest opponent Wednesday in Rio.

Blustery weather again plagued the rowing regatta, forcing a postponement of the entire day of racing. It marked the second time this week that officials had to call off competition because of high winds and choppy water.

Rowers weren't the only athletes affected by weather as rain and wind resulted in the postponement of tennis.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFLer tries out rugby
Nate Ebner, the safety for the New England Patriots who took a break from training camp to fulfil his Olympic dream in rugby sevens, sprinted from almost halfway to score a try against Fiji capping the scoring in a 24-19 loss for the United States.

U.S. captain Madison Hughes missed the conversion from out wide, leaving the margin at five. Less than that and the Americans would have advanced.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREEN WATER

Chemical imbalance blamed for colour

Let's be generous for a moment and say that the colour of the water could have been worse.

A day after the Olympic diving pool turned a swampy shade of green, Wednesday saw the adjacent pool at the Maria Lenk Aquatic Center — the one used for water polo and synchronized swimming — morph from its usual blue to a slightly less shocking shade of the same, uninviting colour. As in, a nauseatingly tinged liquid that wouldn't qualify as the least bit inviting to anyone but the drunkest of beer guzzlers on a St. Patrick's

Day bender.

Still, it was probably better than the once perfectly azure waters of the 31st Olympiad

suddenly running, say, blood red or sludge black. And hey, it's not like there was a discarded sofa lurking ominously below the pool surface, as there may or may not have been on the kayaking course last week. This was, according to organizers, a minor

aesthetic anomaly that posed no threat to the health of the athletes, and at least a few of the Olympians affected by it sounded unconcerned.



My eyes are destroyed now.

Water polo player Valentino Gallo of Italy

for us."

Not everyone felt the same way. Multiple water polo players

who competed in Wednesday morning's session complained the water was hard on the eyes in more ways than one.

"It's very difficult to play in this water because the chlorine is really, really strong for the eyes," said Mladen Janovic of Montenegro. "You cannot even see."

Organizers acknowledged they'd dropped the ball in monitoring the chemical balance of the pools. Rio spokesman Mario Andrada blamed the colour transformation on "a sudden increase in the alkalinity."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Eskimos about to get a boost on offensive line

CFL

Edmonton looks for its first win in its last four games

Help is on the way for quarterback Mike Reilly and the Edmonton Eskimos.

Centre Justin Sorensen returns to the lineup Thursday night when Edmonton (2-4) hosts the Montreal Alouettes (2-4). The six-foot-eight, 310-pound Sorensen missed two games after suffering a separated shoulder in the Eskimos' 37-31 loss to Hamilton on July 23, the first of three straight losses for the defending Grey Cup champions.

Sorensen's return means Edmonton will have its starting offensive line intact, which should give Reilly more time than he's had the last two contests.

"It's huge," Reilly said of Sorensen's return. "He's been the anchor of the O-line, making the calls the last couple of years."

"Having those five guys together, their comfort level is huge and that goes a long way to getting protection for the quarterback."

Sorensen doesn't believe one person can mean the difference between winning and losing but agreed the continuity his return provides the offensive line is big.

"Continuity is probably most important thing on the offensive line, where five guys are working closely together," he said. "The best lines in league are guys who have played together a long time."

With Sorensen back, Simeon Rottier shifts from centre to his usual left guard position.

Like Edmonton, Montreal has had its issues this season. The Alouettes are averaging a league-low 19.7 points scored per game and suffered a 20-point home loss to B.C. last week.

"We're ready for this game just as we would for any other game this season," said Montreal receiver B.J. Cunningham. "Our goal is to win each week."

"In order to do that, we need to execute our plays and move the ball as deep as we can into the opposing end. If we do our jobs and execute our plays, we can win this game."

On Tuesday, Edmonton head coach Jason Maas challenged his team to be better, saying it was time to "put up and shut up." Maas feels Sorensen's presence will help the Eskimos because he's "a battler, a veteran who understands our system better than anyone. He gives everyone more confidence. You need continuity, you need one voice and I firmly believe that'll help us."



The Eskimos' Justin Sorensen missed two games due to a separated shoulder.

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maas reiterated the Eskimos must improve their focus, drastically reduce the penalties that have routinely hurt the offence and overall take ownership and responsibility of their performances.

"The focus has to be on the now," Maas said. "What's creating our problems, look for a solution ... it's about us getting better as a group."

"Let's see what we're doing wrong and really delve into fixing that. The focus needed to be on it's time to go now, time to figure things out and let's get ourselves out of this."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SPORTS ON TV

Tributes flow for Saunders

Tributes poured in Wednesday for Canadian-born sportscaster John Saunders, the original voice of the Toronto Raptors and a fixture for nearly 30 years on ESPN in the U.S., after the network announced that he had died. He was 61.

Saunders, who was born in Toronto and grew up near Montreal, joined ESPN in 1986 after working for a variety of stations in central and eastern Canada. He was the play-by-play announcer on Raptors games from 1995 to 2001.

The former college hockey player who was at ease broadcasting a variety of subjects hosted "The Sports Reporters" on Sunday for ESPN for the last 15 years.

"I think you'd have a hard time finding anyone to say anything bad about John," said Leo Rautins, the former NBA player who worked with Saunders on Raptors broadcasts. "He was very giving, very caring, very intelligent."

NBA commissioner Adam Silver released a statement saying he was "deeply saddened" by the news.

Saunders, an original member of ESPN's SportsCenter crew, called play-by-play for U.S. college and WNBA games, hosted NHL playoff games from 1993 to 2004, Baseball Tonight from 1990 to 1993 and the World Series from 1990 to 1992. He also hosted the Rendez-Vous '87 hockey series in Quebec City between the NHL and the Soviets.

Saunders got his start as news director at CKNS Radio in Espanola, Ont., in 1978. He worked as sports anchor at CKNV-TV in North Bay, Ont., from 1978 to 1979 and at ATV News in New Brunswick in 1979-80 before he became sports anchor for CITY-TV in Toronto from 1980 to 1982.

"He was very proud to be Canadian," said Rautins. "He'd mention it every time he could."

No cause of death was given by the network.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



John Saunders
GETTY IMAGES FILE

MLB

Fragile neck forces Fielder to end career



Prince Fielder was limited to 289 games with Texas.

RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES

Prince Fielder will not be able to come back after a second neck surgery.

The Texas Rangers slugger wept Wednesday as he said he was forced to end his 12-season major-league career. He was still wearing a neck brace 12 days after his second cervical fusion in just over two years.

Fielder didn't formally retire, however, meaning the Rangers would have to keep him on their 40-man roster through 2020. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Sanchez to start for Denver in pre-season opener

Mark Sanchez will be the starting quarterback for the Broncos' pre-season opener in Chicago on Thursday night.

Coach Gary Kubiak on Wednesday gave Sanchez the start over Trevor Siemian, who is listed as the co-No. 1 quarterback on the team's depth chart.

Denver plans to have Sanchez play the first quarter and Siemian play the second.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

Roughriders add Canadian QB Bridge

The Saskatchewan Roughriders signed Canadian quarterback Brandon Bridge on Wednesday.

The six-foot-five, 225-pound Bridge joins the Riders after being released Aug. 1 by the Montreal Alouettes.

Montreal selected the Mississauga, Ont., native in the fourth

round, No. 31 overall, in the 2015 CFL draft.

The former South Alabama star appeared in 11 regular-season games with the Alouettes, completing 26 of 40 passes for 282 yards and two TDs.

He also ran 18 times for 59 yards.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Brandon Bridge
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Toronto Blue Jays players celebrate their 7-0 win against the Tampa Bay Rays at Rogers Centre Thursday. CHRIS SO/TORONTO STAR

Happ keeps rolling on with Tulo's help

BLUE JAYS

Starter tames Tampa to take league win lead

J.A. Happ's magical season continues.

Happ became the first 16-game winner in Major League Baseball this season by tossing six innings of shutout ball on Wednesday night as the Blue Jays blanked the Tampa Bay Rays 7-0.

Happ struck out seven, walked two and yielded only four hits (all singles) in improving his record to 16-3. He's won 10-straight decisions, equalling a mark among Jays claimed by only Roger Clemens and Roy Halladay.

At Rogers Centre



Troy Tulowitzki homered and set a season-high with five RBIs while Devon Travis continued to shine in the leadoff spot for the Jays, extending his hit streak to seven games. Justin Smoak added his 13th home run of the year. Toronto (65-50) entered the night tied with Baltimore for control of the American League East.

Happ's toughest sequence came in the first when the first two Rays to bat both reached base. Happ retired the next three batters, striking out Mikie

Mahtook to close the inning. The Jays quickly snatched the lead thereafter.

Travis led off with a single to left before Josh Donaldson singled to right after a foul pop fly was dropped by Tampa right-fielder Steven Souza Jr.

Toronto made Souza Jr.'s error sting when Tulowitzki sent a Blake Snell slider over the wall in left giving Toronto a 3-0 lead.

The Jays chased Snell from the game with two outs in the second. After Travis cashed a Darwin Barney double with an RBI-single, Snell went on to issue three straight free passes, the latter to Tulowitzki with the bases loaded. That extended the Blue Jays lead to 5-0.

An unlikely Cy Young contender, Happ never let an in-

+ JOEY TO THE DL

Bautista sprains his knee

Jose Bautista is headed back to the 15-day disabled list with a sprained left knee. The Blue Jays outfielder, who only just returned from a stint on the DL, injured the knee as he attempted a throw from right field in the third inning of Tuesday's 9-2 loss to Tampa.

ning get out of hand in his latest outing. He closed four of six innings with a strikeout, snuffing out any hope of a rally to leave is ERA now standing at 2.96.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

6 DARK HORSES for the Heisman Trophy

The pool for the Heisman Trophy is a deep one. Last year's winner Derrick Henry has moved on to the NFL, but five of the next six players in the voting are back, led by runner-up Christian McCaffrey of Stanford. But here are some who could insert themselves into the conversation.



1 Chad Kelly

The Mississippi quarterback is listed high on NFL draft boards for 2017. The nephew of Jim Kelly led the Rebels to five victories over Top 25 teams, including Alabama on the road, as they launch a challenge in the SEC West.



Royce Freeman

Freeman's 3,201 yards rushing the last two years are the most by any player in a Power Five conference. He broke LaMichael James' single-season Oregon rushing record with 1,836 yards in 2015. He also led the country with 36 runs of 15 yards or more.

3 Greg Ward Jr.

Ward led the Cougars to a 13-1 record that was the best in Houston history, and he'll step into a big national spotlight in the opener against Oklahoma. His 16 runs of at least 20 yards led FBS quarterbacks and all players in the American Athletic Conference.



4 Seth Russell

The quarterback led Baylor to a No. 2 national ranking and six straight wins before a neck injury against Iowa State ended his season. He threw for 29 touchdowns and more than 2,100 yards in seven games and also ran for 402 yards.

5 Jabril Peppers

The last two-way player to win the Heisman was the Wolverines' Charles Woodson in 1997. Peppers could be the next. He's moving from safety to a hybrid linebacker position. He also has shown the ability to excel at a half-dozen other spots, not to mention returning punts and kicks.



6 Josh Rosen

Rosen threw for almost 3,700 yards and 23 touchdowns as a freshman and set a UCLA record by going 245 consecutive passes without an interception. He has a new quarterbacks coach in Marques Tuiasosopo and new offensive coordinator in Kennedy Polamalu. As good as Rosen was last year, he figures to only get better.



IN BRIEF

A-Rod sees some action in as Yankees win in Boston

Benched from the starting lineup once again as his finale approaches, Alex Rodriguez pinch hit and flied out in the seventh inning of the New York Yankees' 9-4 comeback win against the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday night.

Red Sox star David Ortiz limped off in the ninth inning after fouling a pitch off his right shin. Rodriguez has just one start and eight at-bats in 17 games since July 22. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wales' Williams leaving Swansea for Everton

Everton has moved quickly to replace centre back John Stones by signing Wales captain Ashley Williams from Swansea.

Everton announced the arrival of Williams on Wednesday, with the 31-year-old defender signing a three-year deal to end his eight-year spell at Swansea.

Williams said he was looking forward to playing under Everton manager Ronald Koeman.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Alabama relents to grant Smith release

Alabama has cleared the way for defensive back Maurice Smith to transfer within the Southeastern Conference, according to a person with knowledge of the decision.

Speaking on condition of anonymity Wednesday, the person said Alabama has granted Smith's release. The Tuscaloosa News first reported the decision.

Smith will have to be granted a waiver from the SEC, which has restrictions on athletes transferring to league schools

with less than two years of eligibility remaining, including graduate transfers. Smith graduated earlier this month.

He has been trying to follow former Alabama assistants Kirby Smart and Mel Tucker to Georgia but was blocked from moving to another SEC school.

A statement from the SEC said the league doesn't comment on such waiver requests but they are reviewed on an individual basis.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Nicoise Pasta



PHOTO: MAYA WISNEY

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada



We took our favorite salad and married it with our kids' carb of choice.

Ready in 25 minutes

Prep time: 5 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 500 grams spaghetti
- 3 Tbsps olive oil
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1/2 cup black olives, pitted and roughly chopped
- 1 pint cherry tomatoes, roughly chopped
- 1/4 cup capers
- 2 x 5 oz tin of tuna, drained
- 3 or 4 leaves of fresh basil, torn into pieces
- 1/2 cup Parmesan, grated

Directions

1. Put a bit pot of well-salted water on to boil. Cook pasta according to package instructions. Just before you drain, remove 1 cup of cooking liquid and set aside.

2. In another large pot, warm up olive oil over medium heat. Toss in garlic, tomatoes, olives and capers. Stir and let the garlic cook for a couple of minutes. Add the tuna and break it up a bit, not too much.

3. Add the cooked pasta and toss together until the pasta is well-coated and the rest of the ingredients are spread throughout. Pour in your cooking liquid bit by bit until the pasta loosens up.

4. Serve with a topping of grated Parmesan and fresh basil.

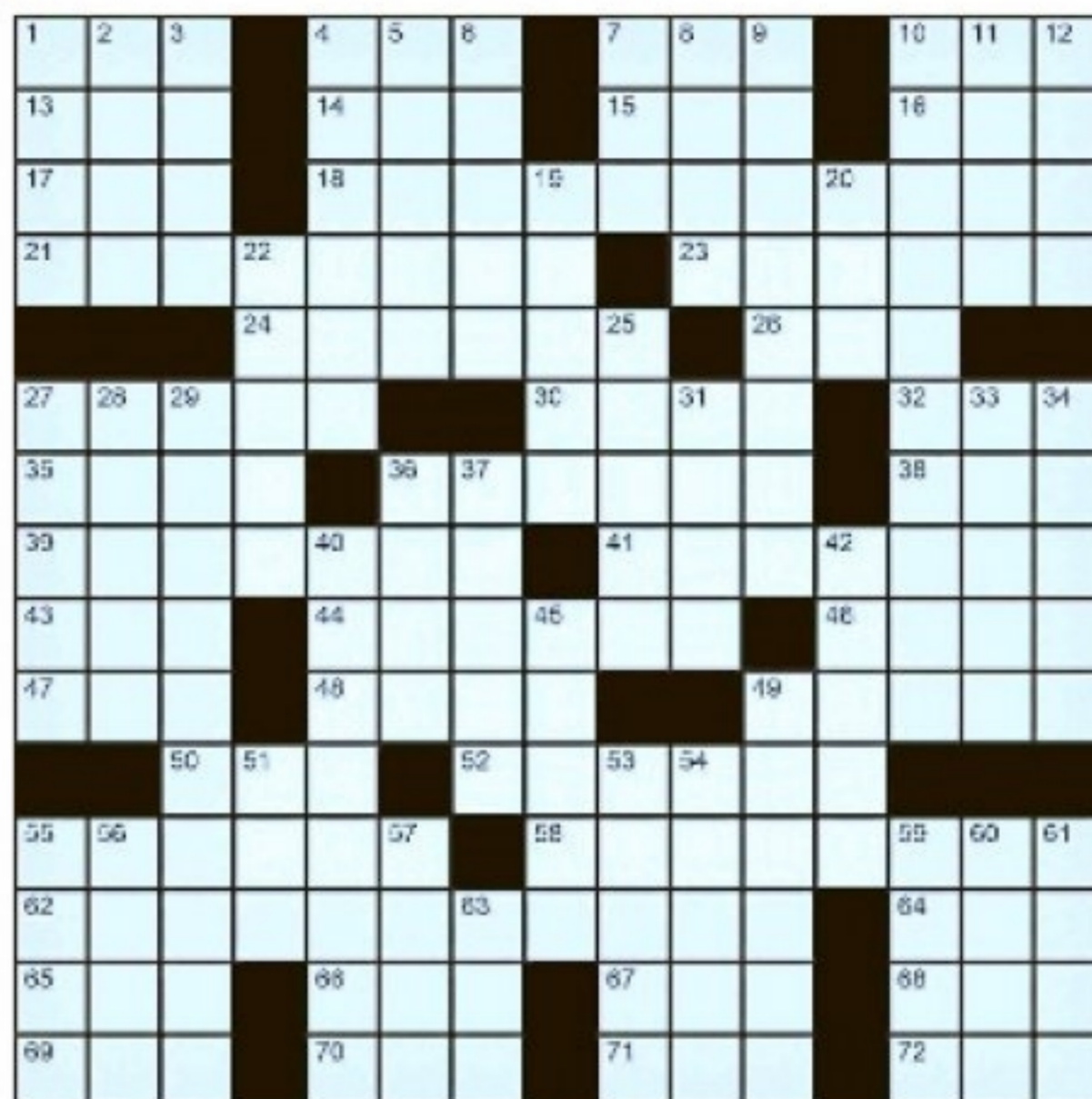
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. RIO 2016: Get gold
4. Computer co.
7. House-coolers, briefly
10. "Awesome!"
13. 'Fluor' suffix
14. U.S. firearms org.
15. Plant
16. 'Depart' suffix
17. Modern: German
18. RIO 2016: Water event, Women's _ (K1) Slalom
21. RIO 2016: Speed it up! 2 wds.
23. Hanson song
24. Montreal 'lemon'
26. Might
27. Fasten, in a way: 2 wds.
30. Quasi
32. Beatles adjective
35. Alphabetic sequence
36. Northwest Territories/Nunavut river
38. _ Red apples
39. RIO 2016: Canada, for one
41. RIO 2016: Greats of any Olympics
43. 17th letter's spelling
44. Articulates again
46. RIO 2016: MLI is its IOC code
47. Jr.s' dads
48. Get from _ _ (Advance slightly)
49. Shenanigans
50. "That's waaay over-sharing!"
52. Plays, untrained puppy style: 2 wds.
55. RIO 2016: San _ (SMR is its IOC code)



58. RIO 2016: Artsy maneuvers discipline in #29-Down
62. RIO 2016: Reward for ancient Olympians: 2 wds.
64. Tea type
65. Music honour, e.g.
66. Irish actor

- Stephen
67. Actor, Daniel _ Kim
68. Him opposite
69. Hosiery hue
70. Compass dir.
71. Wee question follower
72. Hankering

DOWN

1. RIO 2016: Victory goddess Nike's one-of-two
2. 'Thought'-meaning prefix
3. Quebec 'nine'
4. Does cartooning work: 2 wds.
5. Hollywood's

- Benjamin
6. Singer/guitarist John
7. Get permission
8. 'Micro' ender
9. RIO 2016: Olympic sport
10. RIO 2016: 'Sevens' team sport event scheduled for the Men today,

- August 11th: 2 wds.
11. Mr. Guthrie
12. Meaningful
19. Came about
20. Q. "Is _ _ _ way to abbreviate Santa Fe's state?" A. "Yes."
22. Squash variety
25. Ms. Furtado
27. Tick _ (Clock noises)
28. Q. "Shall _ _ you a glass?" ...asked the sommelier
29. RIO 2016: Olympic sport which is a 'mane' event
31. Classic comedian Mr. Howard's
33. Befuddle
34. Foundation
36. Old shipping weight allowance
37. Green tea variety
40. RIO 2016: Athlete aiders
42. Gives off
45. RIO 2016: Respect the rules
49. Does dishes
51. 1004 in ancient Rome
53. Milan-based fashion house
54. _ _ example
55. Castle's surrounder
56. _ mater
57. Is beholden
59. RIO 2016: Like a sore-muscles athlete
60. Clarified butter
61. Garner
63. "Norma _" (1979)

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Steer clear of propagandist discussions regarding religion, politics and racial issues. This is a poor day for important ideas; someone might trick you or even deceive you.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Postpone important decisions about inheritances, shared property, wills, taxes and debt. Today is a poor day to discuss these matters or to act on them.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Discussions with others might depress or confuse you. This is not your fault. This is par for the course today. Just coast and agree to nothing important.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Don't let someone in authority shoot you down today or discourage you. You don't have all the facts; in fact, you might be seriously misled! Use caution.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
For some reason, children might be an increased responsibility today. In addition, romance is depressing and confusing. Just for today. Oy!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Domestic discussions might discourage you because an older family member is critical. This is a temporary setback. Don't let it get you down.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Do not give in to negative thinking today. In part, you are confused about something. Someone might have misrepresented the truth to you.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a poor day for important financial decisions because you could make a mistake. You don't have the confidence and the right frame of mind to do your best. Forewarned is forearmed.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Conversations with others are difficult today, because they are confusing, discouraging or both! Knowing this ahead of time, take a step backward. Just coast.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Something going on behind the scenes might discourage you. You might be deceived as well! Trust no one today.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Someone older might rain on your parade today. Reserve judgment about anything important until tomorrow, because you are not in the right frame of mind today.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't ask for permission or approval from bosses, parents and VIPs today because these conversations will not go well. If you want anything, the response will likely be, "Talk to the hand."

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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